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› December 2019



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# Industrial Disputes, Australia

This publication contains the quarterly estimates of employees involved and working days lost from industrial disputes

Reference period December 2019

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Released 12/03/2020

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## Main features

### December key statistics

The Industrial Disputes release provides statistics monitoring the level of industrial disputation in Australia.

### Quarterly estimates

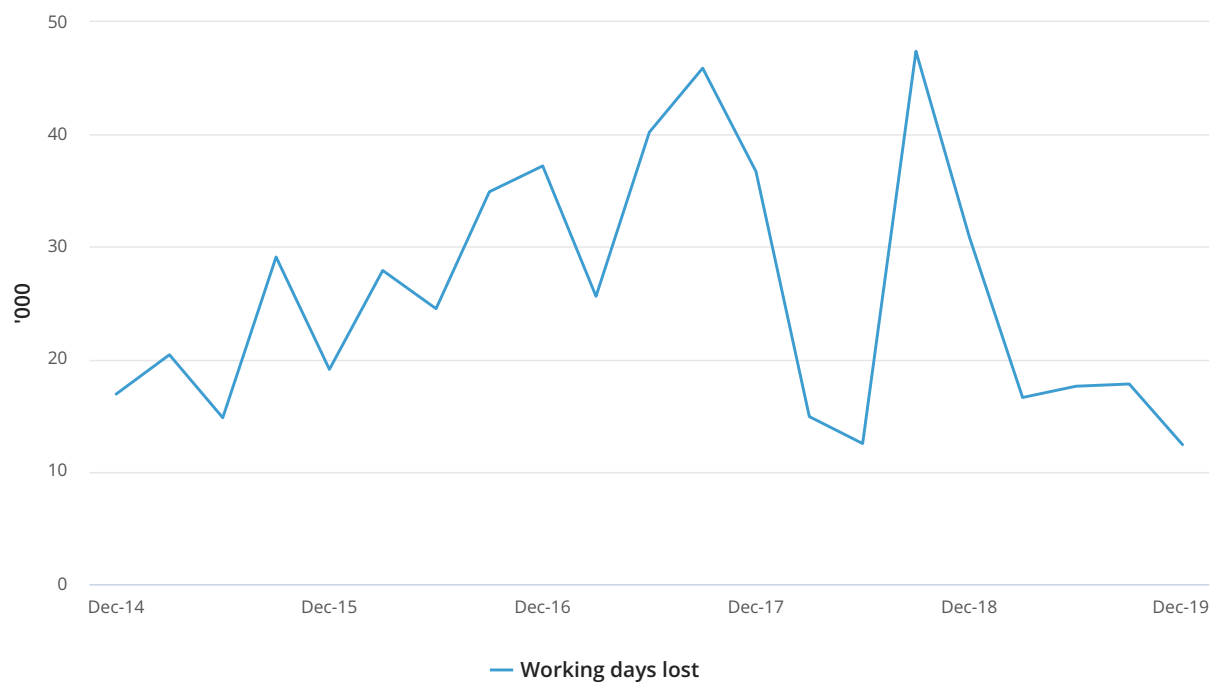
- 38 disputes occurred, five less from the previous quarter.
- 8,800 employees were involved, a decrease from 17,500 in the previous quarter.
- 12,400 working days were lost, a decrease from 17,800 in the previous quarter.
- More than two in ten (22%) working days lost were in the Other manufacturing industry.
- More than two in ten (29%) working days lost were in Victoria.

### Year ended estimates

- 147 disputes occurred, 16 less than in the previous year.
- 64,400 working days were lost, 39% less than the previous year.

	Quarter		Year ended	
	September 2019	December 2019	December 2018	December 2019
Number of disputes				
Commenced in period (no.)	35	34	158	135
Total (no.)	43	38	163	147
Employees involved				
Newly involved ('000)	16.8	8.3	57.4	51.6
Total ('000)	17.5	8.8	57.6	53.2
Working days lost ('000)	17.8	12.4	105.8	64.4

## Working days lost, Australia



## Tables

### 1 Industrial disputes which occurred during the quarter

	Number of disputes		Employees involved		
	Commenced in period	Total	Newly involved	Total	Working days lost
	no.	no.	'000	'000	'000
December Quarter 2017	46	67	14.7	17.1	36.7
March Quarter 2018	19	24	3.8	4.0	14.9
June Quarter 2018	42	48	14.4	14.6	12.5
September Quarter 2018	44	51	13.6	13.8	47.4
December Quarter 2018	53	62	25.6	28.8	30.9
March Quarter 2019	32	44	7.8	9.3	16.6
June Quarter 2019	34	44	18.8	20.2	17.6
September Quarter 2019	35	43	16.8	17.5	17.8
December Quarter 2019	34	38	8.3	8.8	12.4

## 2 Industrial disputes which occurred during the quarter, industry

	September Quarter 2019		December Quarter 2019	
	Working days lost	Working days lost per thousand employees	Working days lost	Working days lost per thousand employees
	'000	no.	'000	no.
<b>Mining</b>				
Coal mining	np	np	np	np
Other mining	-	-	-	0.1
<b>Manufacturing</b>				
Metal product etc(a)	0.2	0.5	0.8	2.5
Other manufacturing	2.4	4.7	2.7	5.0
Construction	1.8	1.9	1.2	1.3
Transport, postal and warehousing	3.3	5.7	np	np
Education and training; Health care and social assistance	6.7	2.5	0.5	0.2
Other industries(a)	np	np	0.7	0.1
<b>All industries</b>	17.8	1.5	12.4	1.1

- nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

np not available for publication but included in totals where applicable, unless otherwise indicated

a. See Glossary - Industry - for details of industries included.

## 3 Industrial disputes which occurred during the quarter, states and territories

	September Quarter 2019		December Quarter 2019	
	Working days lost	Working days lost per thousand employees	Working days lost	Working days lost per thousand employees
	'000	no.	'000	no.
New South Wales	5.5	1.5	np	np
Victoria	3.2	1.0	3.6	1.1
Queensland	2.8	1.2	2.1	0.9
South Australia	6.2	8.3	0.1	0.1
Western Australia	np	np	0.1	0.1
Tasmania	np	np	np	np
Northern Territory	-	-	np	np
Australian Capital Territory	-	-	np	np
<b>Australia</b>	17.8	1.5	12.4	1.1

- nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

np not available for publication but included in totals where applicable, unless otherwise indicated

## 4 Industrial disputes which ended during the quarter

	June Quarter 2019			September Quarter 2019		
	Total Number of Disputes	Total Employees Involved	Working days Lost	Total Number of Disputes	Total Employees Involved	Working days Lost
	no.	'000	'000	no.	'000	'000
<b>CAUSE OF DISPUTE</b>						
Enterprise Bargaining (EB) related						
Remuneration	10	3.9	2.8	10	0.5	1.2
Employment conditions (EB)	14	3.4	8.3	17	12.8	11.3
Other EB related	-	-	-	2	-	0.9
Non-EB related						
Remuneration	-	-	-	-	-	-
Employment conditions	1	np	np	1	0.5	0.1
Health and safety	5	np	np	7	1.9	1.7
Job security	1	0.1	-	-	-	-
Managerial policy	1	np	np	1	-	-
Union issues	-	-	-	-	-	-
Other Non EB related	4	11.4	7.3	1	1.5	1.1
<b>Total</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>20.2</b>	<b>19.7</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>17.2</b>	<b>16.3</b>
<b>WORKING DAYS LOST PER EMPLOYEE INVOLVED</b>						
Up to and including 1 day	19	17.7	11.4	22	14.1	8.7
Over 1 day and up to including 2 days	10	1.7	2.4	7	2.4	4.2
Over 2 and less than 5 days	6	0.8	3.1	5	0.6	1.5
5 and less than 10 days	-	-	-	2	0.1	0.6
10 days and over	1	0.1	2.9	3	-	1.3
<b>Total</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>20.2</b>	<b>19.7</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>17.2</b>	<b>16.3</b>
<b>REASON WORK RESUMED</b>						
Negotiation without intervention of a third party	2	0.3	1.1	5	0.3	1.3
State legislation	1	0.1	0.1	1	-	-
Federal legislation	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pre-determined return to work	29	19.1	15.0	29	15.6	13.4
Resumption without negotiation	3	0.7	0.6	1	np	np
Mediation	1	0.1	2.9	3	np	np
Other reasons	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>36</b>	<b>20.2</b>	<b>19.7</b>	<b>39</b>	<b>17.2</b>	<b>16.3</b>

- nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

np not available for publication but included in totals where applicable, unless otherwise indicated

## Inquiries

For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070.

## Data downloads

Table 1: Industrial disputes which occurred during the period

[↓ Download XLS](#)

[67 KB]

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Table 2a: Industrial disputes which occurred during the period, working days lost, industry

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[80 KB]

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Table 2b: Industrial disputes which occurred during the period, working days lost per thousand employees, industry

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Table 3a: Industrial disputes which occurred during the period, working days lost, states and territories

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[125 KB]

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Table 3b: Industrial disputes which occurred during the period, working days lost per thousand employees, states and territories

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[114 KB]

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Table 4a: Industrial disputes which ended during the period, cause of dispute

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Table 4b: Industrial disputes which ended during the period, working days lost per employee involved

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[123 KB]

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Table 4c: Industrial disputes which ended during the period, reason work resumed

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[225.5 KB]

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## Methodology

[Industrial Disputes, Australia methodology, December 2019](#)